

ULLL 2023 Fall Ball Rules - Coach Pitch Division (Updated 22 August 2023)

LOCAL PLAYING RULES

1. Each offensive team shall be limited to five (5) runs per inning or three (3) outs whichever occurs first.
2. No new inning shall be started after 90 minutes from the start of the game. There is a hard stop for every Fall Coach Pitch game at one hour and 45 mins (1:45).
3. The complete roster will be the batting order. All players may take the field for defensive purposes.
 - Teams will have one (1) Pitcher, four (4) infielders (1B, 2B, SS, 3B) and the rest outfielders
 - The catcher will be the defensive team's umpire – which will be one of the defensive team's assistant coaches
 - The "catcher" will not make plays at home plate.
4. No runner may steal a base.
5. Coaches will instruct defensive players to make appropriate plays. When the ball is hit to the infield, the infield defensive team can make plays to the appropriate base(s). There will be no advancement on overthrows or inappropriate plays. The runner(s) will be safe at the appropriate base and all play stops.
6. Coaches will instruct defensive players to make appropriate plays. When the ball is hit to the outfield, defensive players should throw (not run) the baseball back to the infield, the play continues and runners should continue running to a base. Once the ball is back in the infield, runners should be stopped at the next base they reach, at which point the play is over. If they are tagged out before the end of the play, they are out. If, after the play, it is determined that a runner was not more than half way toward the next base at the moment the ball crossed the plane of the infield (where the dirt meets the grass) the runner is sent back to the previous base. A player in the outfield may not make a put out in the infield unless acting as a backup on a run down. The outfield player must throw to an infielder for a put out.
7. All defensive players will be positioned in the normal location where that position is traditionally played. Outfielders should be positioned no less than 10-15 feet (or 5 big steps) behind the edge of the infield at the start of each pitch.
8. The **offensive team's** team manager or coach will pitch (*by hand or using the pitching machine*) to the offensive team's batters. The purpose of the coach pitcher is to aid the players in hitting the ball and putting the ball in play
 - a. Pitches will be delivered overhand (*or by the pitching machine*) from the coach pitch mark (~35 ft from home plate), "3 big steps" from the pitcher's plate.
 - b. A maximum of seven (7) pitches will be allowed for each batter. If the batter has not advanced within the seven (7) pitches, s/he will be called out. A seventh pitched foul ball does not award the batter another pitch.
9. Playing Time – Based on a six (6) inning game.
 - a. All players must play at least two (2) innings in the infield.
 - b. All players must play in an outfield position for at least one (1) inning.
10. Umpires – One of the **defensive team's** assistant coaches is required to serve as the home plate umpire while their team is on defense.
 - a. The umpire will count pitches and make out and safe calls on the bases.
 - b. The umpire does not call balls or strikes.
 - c. **Managers may not serve as the volunteer umpire.**

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11. During the game...

- Players from the batting team will sit in the dugout while they await their “at bat.” Players will not take practice swings while they wait for their “at bat”
- When the player is “on-deck” they will remain in the dugout, without a bat, until they are called up to bat. Batters are to be handed a bat by the manager or a coach as they are exiting the dugout for their at-bat.
- After players leave the field (whether after an out, scoring a run or when the inning is over), players will return to the dugout. If the half inning is over, they will get their hat and glove and return to the field for defense.
- Each player’s equipment will reside in the dugout with an adult
- Parents/guardians are not permitted to go to the “dugout” area to pick-up player equipment until after the game is over.
- The batting (offensive) team will have:
 - Two coaches positioned at 1B and 3B
 - One coach in the dugout area assisting with getting kids on / off the field
 - One coach serving as the pitcher
- The fielding (defensive) team will have:
 - One coach serving as the catcher / umpire
 - Two “outfield coaches” positioned in the outfield (behind the fielders)
 - Note: If the defensive team has seven (7) players or less, the “outfield coaches” can serve as outfielders
 - Teams can play with five (5) or more players